

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
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OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SPACE SCIENCE BOARD

March 6, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Chairman
Department of Medical Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

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GENETICS DEPARTMENT
STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Stanford, California
J. L.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you very much for forwarding to me your correspondence with Eugene Kinhead of the New Yorker magazine. As you note in your reply to him, these appear to be responsible people who usually do as good a job as may be found in the popular press. It does seem quite important to me, however, to be most conservative in all conversations and correspondence with the press in general.

have done
This particular subject, extra-terrestrial contamination, is complicated further by reason of the approaching meeting of CETEX and its uncertain future. My own suggestion would be for you to urge Kinhead to contact me here after the CETEX and COSPAR meetings, when we should be in a very much better position to talk more constructively about his article. I expect to return to my office about the 17th of March.

I want to thank you again for your very great help in the preparation for the CETEX meeting. I hope that you will find it possible to attend and will look forward possibly to seeing you in The Hague.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh Odishaw
Hugh Odishaw
Executive Director